

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 1680

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 22, 2000

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To provide for the conveyance of Forest Service property
in Kern County, California, in exchange for county lands
suitable for inclusion in Sequoia National Forest.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Kern County Cali-
3 fornia Land Exchange Act of 2000”.

4 **SEC. 2. LAND EXCHANGE, CAMP OWEN AND RELATED PAR-**
5 **CELS, KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.**

6 (a) EXCHANGE REQUIRED.—In exchange for the
7 non-Federal lands and the additional consideration de-
8 scribed in subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture
9 shall convey to Kern County, California, all right, title,
10 and interest of the United States in and to four parcels
11 of land under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service in
12 Kern County, as follows:

13 (1) Approximately 70 acres known as Camp
14 Owen.

15 (2) Approximately 4 acres known as Wofford
16 Heights Park.

17 (3) Approximately 4 acres known as the French
18 Gulch maintenance yard.

19 (4) Approximately 14 acres known as the
20 Kernville Fish Hatchery.

21 (b) CONSIDERATION.—

22 (1) CONVEYANCE OF NON-FEDERAL LANDS.—
23 As consideration for the conveyance of the Federal
24 lands referred to in subsection (a), Kern County
25 shall convey to the Secretary a parcel of land con-
26 sisting of approximately 52 acres of Greenhorn

1 Mountain Park in Kern County, California, which is
2 owned by Kern County within Sequoia National For-
3 est.

4 (2) REPLACEMENT FACILITY.—As additional
5 consideration for the conveyance of the storage facil-
6 ity located at the maintenance yard referred to in
7 subsection (a)(3), Kern County shall provide a re-
8 placement storage facility of comparable size and
9 condition, as acceptable to the Secretary, at the
10 Greenhorn Ranger District Lake Isabella Mainte-
11 nance Yard property.

12 (3) CASH EQUALIZATION PAYMENT.—As addi-
13 tional consideration for the conveyance of the Fed-
14 eral lands referred to in subsection (a), Kern County
15 shall tender a cash equalization payment specified by
16 the Secretary, but not to exceed \$100,000. Subject
17 to such limitation, the cash equalization payment
18 shall be based upon an appraisal performed at the
19 option of the Forest Service pursuant to section
20 206(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management
21 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716(b)).

22 (c) CONDITIONS ON ACCEPTANCE.—Title to the non-
23 Federal lands to be conveyed under this section must be
24 acceptable to the Secretary, and the conveyance shall be
25 subject to valid existing rights of record. The non-Federal

1 lands shall conform with the title approval standards ap-
2 plicable to Federal land acquisitions.

3 (d) TIME FOR CONVEYANCE.—Subject to subsection
4 (c), the Secretary shall complete the conveyance of the
5 Federal lands under subsection (a) within 3 months after
6 Kern County tenders to the Secretary the consideration
7 required by subsection (b).

8 (e) STATUS OF ACQUIRED LANDS.—Upon approval
9 and acceptance of title by the Secretary, the non-Federal
10 lands conveyed to the United States under this section
11 shall become part of Sequoia National Forest, and the
12 boundaries of the national forest shall be adjusted to in-
13 clude the acquired lands. The Secretary shall manage the
14 acquired lands for recreational purposes in accordance
15 with the laws and regulations pertaining to the National
16 Forest System. For purposes of section 7 of the Land and
17 Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–
18 9), the boundaries of the national forest, as adjusted pur-
19 suant to this section, shall be considered to be the bound-
20 aries of the national forest as of January 1, 1965.

21 (f) RELATIONSHIP TO ENVIRONMENTAL LIABIL-
22 ITY.—In connection with the conveyances under this sec-
23 tion, the Secretary may require such additional terms and
24 conditions related to environmental liability as the Sec-

1 retary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the
2 United States.

3 (g) LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—The exact acreage and
4 legal description of the real property to be exchanged
5 under this section shall be determined by a survey or sur-
6 veys satisfactory to the Secretary. The costs of any such
7 survey, as well as other administrative costs incurred to
8 execute the land exchange (other than costs incurred by
9 Kern County to comply with subsection (h)), shall be di-
10 vided equally between the Secretary and Kern County.

11 (h) TREATMENT OF EXISTING UTILITY LINES AT
12 CAMP OWEN.—Upon receipt of the Federal lands de-
13 scribed in subsection (a)(1), Kern County shall grant an
14 easement, and record the easement in the appropriate of-
15 fice, for permitted or licensed uses of those lands that are
16 unrecorded as of the date of the conveyance.

17 (i) APPLICABLE LAW.—Except as otherwise provided
18 in this section, any exchange of National Forest System
19 land under this section shall be subject to the laws (includ-
20 ing regulations) applicable to the conveyance and acquisi-
21 tion of land for the National Forest System.

Passed the House of Representatives March 21,
2000.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.